University Reaches New Heights

Munro Climbing Wall to be Built as Part of Newell Project

Megan Babcock
Contributing Writer

It is impossible not to notice the construction of the Newell Field House, which is an extension of St. Lawrence's existing athletics complex. Among the new and improved facilities that are in the works, a three story indoor climbing wall is one of the most anticipated features of the project.

Funded by the Munro family, the new wall is a drastic improvement on the existing climbing facilities. Currently St. Lawrence has a 20 foot wall located by the indoor track in Leithead Fieldhouse. Although this provides a welcome opportunity to

climb during the long winter months in Canton, its limited belay stations and lack of features often make the nearby Clarkson wall a more appealing option for climbers. However, this will soon change when the state of the art wall opens next fall.

The new 32 foot wall is not only bigger, but has a concrete form, which allows for more realistic climbing then the current plywood base of the existing wall. There are also numerous overhangs and outcroppings that will challenge even advanced climbers, in addition to lead climbing bolts to practice skills that are necessary for most outdoor climbing. A new element of the wall will be a small bouldering

cave built into the corner, which allows students to practice new moves while being closer to the ground and without using a rope and harness.

Painted in the colors of local Potsdam sandstone, the wall is nearing completion. The Outdoor Program plans keep it open from 11a.m.-2 p.m. and 4 p.m.-10p.m. each day, staffed by student guides. St. Lawrence is also planning to hire a new Associate Director of Outdoor Programming, who will be certified in climbing. This new employee will help to boost the University's existing climbing program, and entice more St. Lawrence students to become interested in the sport.

Kenya Night Delights Community

Kenneth Okoth Staff Writer

More that two hundred students, faculty and members of the University community attended Kenya Night 2001 in the Sykes Formal Lounge at 7 p.m. last Saturday. "This event raises the profile of the Kenya semester program on campus," said Assistant Professor of government Dr. Assis Malaquias.

Eight Kenyan students at St. Lawrence and members of the International House worked together in organizing the annual cultural event. The highlights of the evening included a dinner buffet of Kenyan dishes and an African soukouss dance performance choreographed by junior Kwekwe Kivutha. A group of Laurentian Singers performed a Kenyan song and dance from their tour repertoire.

Apart from the entertainment, all the Kenyan students gave an educational Microsoft Power Point presentation about their country.

"The presentation helped me to understand some aspects of Kenya that I have been learning about in my African studies seminar," said Julia Hewitson, '01. "I really liked the food, and I think the dancing was very good," she added.

Students who have participated on the university's study abroad program in Kenya found Kenya Night 2001 a great opportunity to reminisce about their experiences. Seniors Natali Smith, Kate Walker and Hope Thornton told the crowd that studying for a semester in Kenya had changed their lives.

"I went to Kenya as a vegetarian, but now I also eat meat," Smith said.

Residential coordinators Robin Lehrberger and Donald Grooms noted the success of Kenya Night 2001 with great satisfaction.

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NEWS IN REVIEW

Matthew J. Lavin

News Editor

WASHINGTON-On April 1, Chinese and U.S. aircrafts collided, resulting in the death of Chinese pilot and the forced landing of the U.S. spy plane on Hainan island in southernmost China. For the next nine days, China and the United States were involved in diplomacy in order to return the 24 U.S. crew members to the U.S. On Tuesday, the Bush administration stated that talks with the Chinese had gone as far as they could, and China must move to end the standoff over a grounded U.S. spy plane. Chinese officials questioned the 24 crew members of a Navy surveillance plane, White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said on Tuesday. "The United States must take a more cooperative and pragmatic attitude. It must take responsibility, and it must apologize," Foreign Ministry spokesman Sun Yuxi said. On Wednesday, civil rights leader Jesse Jackson made an offer to Colin Powell to act as a diplomat for the U.S. "We must somehow bring our soldiers back home and not allow them to be trophies in a growing, deepening crisis between the U.S. and China," Jackson stated in an interview with CNN on Tuesday. On Wednesday, the Bush administration secured the release of the 24 crew members and a plane took off from Guam to pick them up. After a standard debriefing, the members of the crew are to be flown to their home bases in the United States.

LONDON— On Wednesday, the upper house of the Dutch parliament made the Netherlands the first country to legalize euthanasia, a practice that has enjoyed growing popular support. The law makes no specific mention of whether the patient needs to be terminally ill to have euthanasia approved. The law passed with close to 90% of Dutch Parliament in favor. Locally, the only similar law presently in force is Oregon's "Death with Dignity Act." The 1997 law permits physician-assisted suicide within a more closely defined set of circumstances than the new Dutch legislation. In the Netherlands, the new law removes the possibility of doctors being prosecuted for euthanasia, which previously carried a maximum 12-year sentence.

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First-Year Student
Moira Anderson enjoys
breakfast in the
Northstar Pub shortly
before giving a campus
tour to some St.
Lawrence Scholars.

There were approximately 70 student scholars present on Monday, April 9 and throughout the day, University students lent a hand to make the scholars feel at home.

Scholars toured campus, sat in on classes, and enjoyed uncommonly beautiful weather.

Photo by Liz Burnham